bound, 1-bound, bicast, or idle, the concentrator includes: (a) m input ports to receive the input signals; (b) m output ports partitioned into two groups wherein m−n of the m output ports are grouped as a 0-output group and the remaining n output ports are grouped as a 1-output group; and (c) means, responsive to the input signals, for routing a maximum total number of 0-bound and bicast ones of the input signals to the 0-output group and the maximum total number of 1-bound and bicast ones of the input signals to the 1-output group.

A1 Cont.

In accordance with a broad method aspect of the present invention, a method for implementing an m-to-n multicast concentrator with reference to the network topology of an m-to-n concentrator, the m-to-n concentrator having m−n output ports grouped as a 0-output group and n output ports grouped as a 1-output group and being constructed from a multi-stage interconnection network of sorting cells, includes: (a) constructing a multi-stage interconnection network of nodes having the same network topology as the multi-stage interconnection network of the m-to-n concentrator; and (b) filling each of the nodes of the constructed network with a bicast cell.--

Please replace lines 1-3 on page 13 as follows: --

A2

FIG. 21B depicts a (1 2 3) permutation on an 8×8 exchange;

FIG. 21C depicts a (3 1) permutation on an 8×8 exchange;

FIG. 21D depicts a combined (1 4)(2 3) permutation on an 8×8 exchange;--.